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Filed: September 11, 1998

On page 9, line 12, replace "period.." with -- period. --.

On page 32, line 2, replace "What is preliminarily claimed" with --What is claimed--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1 to 4.

Please add the following new claims:

5. (Newly Added) A system for use in managing a job, comprising:

a job entry application for defining at least one task within the job;

a scheduling application for assigning personnel to the at least one task;

a materials management application for assigning any needed materials to the at least one task; and

an interface for receiving updates on the status of the at least one task.

6. (Newly Added) The system as set forth in claim 5, further including a pricing application for assigning a cost to the at least one task.

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7. (Newly Added) The system as set forth in claim 5, further including a bid and award application for generating bid packages for the job and for receiving completed bids, the bid and award application for being used in the awarding of the job to a desired bidder.

8. (Newly Added) The system as set forth in claim 7, further including a regional contracts application for providing a contract template for use by the bid and award application.

9. (Newly Added) The system as set forth in claim 8, wherein the bid and award application is for generating the bid packages by adding contract work items and contractor information to the contract template.

10. (Newly Added) The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the job entry application is for configuring the at least one task into activities and for chronologically scheduling the activities based on desired completion dates of the activities.

11. (Newly Added) The system as set forth in claim 6, wherein the prieing application is for assigning labor and material costs to the at least one task.

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12. (Newly Added) The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the scheduling application is for assigning personnel to the at least one task based on worker profiles indicating availability of the personnel.

13. (Newly Added) The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the materials management application is for tracking materials within inventory.

14. (Newly Added) The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the materials management application is for assigning materials in inventory to the at least one task.

15. (Newly Added) The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the materials management application is for determining which materials are not within inventory and generating orders for the needed materials.

16. (Newly Added) The system as set forth in claim 5, wherein the interface is a billing and reporting application for receiving input from contractors as to completed tasks.

17. (Newly Added) The system as set forth in claim 16, wherein the billing and reporting application includes a work order to be provided to contractors so that the contractors can acknowledge acceptance of the work order.

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18. (Newly Added)   The system as set forth in claim 17, wherein the billing and

reporting application is for ensuring that only the work orders that were reported and

completed are sent for payment.

19. (Newly Added) The system as set forth in claim 5, further including an inspection

application for random sampling of the completed at least one task.

20. (Newly Added) The system as set forth in claim 5, further including a

workstation application for providing an interface through which employees can enter their

time worked and completed tasks.

21. (Newly Added) The system as set forth in claim 5, further including a

management reports application for providing management reports and printouts.

22. (Newly Added) A computer-implemented method of performing job

management, comprising:

defining at least one task within a job and configuring the at least one task into

scheduling activities;

assigning a cost to the at least one task;

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prioritizing the activities and assigning available personnel to the at least one task;

performing materials management by assigning any needed materials to the at least

one task; and

receiving updates on the status of the at least one task.

23. (Newly Added) The method of claim 22, further comprising generating bid

packages for the job and receiving completed bids.

24. (Newly Added) The method of claim 23, further comprising providing a contract

template for use in generating the bid packages.

25. (Newly Added) The method of claim 24, further comprising adding contract work

items and contractor information to the contract template.

26. (Newly Added) The method of claim 22, wherein the defining at least one task

within a job further comprises configuring the at least one task into activities and

chronologically scheduling the activities based on desired completion dates of the activities.

27. (Newly Added) The method of claim 22, wherein the assigning a cost to the at

least one task further comprises assigning a labor and material cost to the at least one task.

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28. (Newly Added) The method of claim 22, wherein the assigning personnel to the
at least one task further comprises assigning the personnel based on worker profiles
indicating availability of the personnel.

29. (Newly Added) The method of claim 22, wherein the assigning any needed
materials to the at least one task further comprises tracking materials within inventory.

30. (Newly Added) The method of claim 22, wherein the assigning any needed
materials to the at least one task further comprises assigning materials in inventory to the at
least one task.

31. (Newly Added) The method of claim 22, wherein the assigning any needed
materials to the at least one task further comprises determining which materials are not
within inventory and generating orders for the needed materials.

32. (Newly Added) The method of claim 22, wherein the receiving updates on the
status of the at least one task further comprises receiving input from contractors as to
completed tasks.

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33. (Newly Added) The method of claim 32, wherein the receiving updates on the status of the at least one task further comprises providing a work order to contractors and receiving acknowledgment from contractors on acceptance of the work order.

34. (Newly Added) The method of claim 33, wherein the receiving updates on the status of the at least one task further comprises ensuring that only the work orders that were reported and completed are sent for payment.

35. (Newly Added) The method of claim 22, further comprising performing a random sampling of at least one completed task.

36. (Newly Added) The method of claim 22, further comprising providing an interface through which employees can enter their time worked and completed tasks.

37. (Newly Added) The method of claim 22, further comprising providing management reports and printouts.

38. (Newly Added) A computer-readable medium for storing software used by a computer-implemented system in performing a method of:

defining at least one task within a job;

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      assigning a cost to the at least one task;

      assigning personnel to the at least one task;

      assigning any needed materials to the at least one task; and

      receiving updates on the status of the at least one task.

      39. (Newly Added) A computer-implemented method for use in formation of a contract, comprising:

      providing a contract template for assembling a bid package;

      transmitting the bid package to contractors;

      receiving offers from the contractors;

      evaluating the offers; and

      awarding the contract.

      40. (Newly Added) A computer-implemented method for use in formation of a contract, comprising:

      generating a bid;

      sending the bid to contractors;

      adding pricing and other information by contractors to the bid;

      returning the bid by contractors;

      viewing and comparing all bids received by the contractors;

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awarding the contract to contractor having the most desirable bid.

41. (Newly Added) The method of claim 40 further comprising notifying contractors that were not awarded the contract.

42. (Newly Added) A system for use in formation of a contract, comprising:

a template for assembling a bid package;

a data processor for communicating with contractors including copying, encrypting, sending and printing the bid package; and

a comparator for evaluating responses to the bid package.

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